BUCK OWENS PRODUCTION COMPANY, INC. 94-123

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Renee Licht Federal Communications Commission Office Of Mass Media 1919 M Street, NW **Room 314** Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Licht:

I understand that at its October meeting the Federal Communications Commission may initiate a proceeding looking to relax the Prime Time Access Rule. On behalf of station KUZZ, I strongly urge you to retain the "off-network" portion of the rule.

The off-network rule is vitally important to my station and is absolutely necessary to promote diversity and competition in local television markets. In fact, the off-network portion of the Prime Time Access Rule has been instrumental in creating a competitive independent television industry. It is also an essential element in the Commission's long held goal of creating new off-air television networks.

Without the off-network rule, independent stations will have a difficult time securing the rights to top quality off-network programming to air during the access period. This in turn will have a negative impact on my station's ability to finance programming for other dayparts, including local news and public affairs programming.

tt is no secret that major changes are taking place in the broadcast industry. Mega mergers between the big three networks and major program producers appear to be on the horizon. With the big three networks poised to enter the off-network and first run syndication market, my station will have a difficult time obtaining the rights to programming. Eliminating the off-network rule may make it impossible. Without PTAR and the off-network portion of the rule, the American public will receive all of its programming from a few telecommunications giants. Such a result is not in the public interest.

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If the FCC intends to examine this issue, it should do so in the context of a neutral Notice of Inquiry. At this time the FCC should not proceed directly to rule making. There are too many unresolved and complex issues which have not been discussed on the record.

Proposals to eliminate the off-network provision of PTAR will return us to a system where the three major networks can squeeze out independent producers and stifle competition from stations not affiliated with the big three networks. The Commission should not abdicate its responsibility to promote competition. Stations such as my own deserve a chance to compete. I urge you to proceed with extreme care and retain the off-network rule.

Sincerely

Mel Owens, Jr.

Secretary/Treasurer

MO/cm



SEP 20 2 43 PM '94

2065 Cantu Court · Sarasota, FL 34232

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September 12, 1994

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Dear Chairman Hundt:

I understand that at its October meeting the Federal Communications Commission may initiate a proceeding looking to relax the Prime Time Access Rule. On behalf of station TV 62, I strongly urge you to retain the "off-network" portion of the rule.

The off-network rule is vitally important to my station and is absolutely necessary to promote diversity and competition in local television markets. In fact, the off-network portion of the Prime Time Access Rule has been instrumental in creating a competitive independent television industry. It is also an essential element in the Commission's long held goal of creating new off-air television networks.

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Sincerely,

Danford L. Sawyer Jr.

President & General Partner

DeSoto Channel 62 Associates, Ltd.

DLS/rlc /

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KNIX FM 102.5 Phoenix. AZ

KC&W AM 1580 Phoenix, AZ Bob Ratcliffe
Federal Communications Commission
Office Of Mass Media
1919 M Street, NW
Room 314
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Ratcliffe:

I understand that at its October meeting the Federal Communications Commission may initiate a proceeding looking to relax the Prime Time Access Rule. On behalf of station KUZZ, I strongly urge you to retain the "off-network" portion of the rule.

The off-network rule is vitally important to my station and is absolutely necessary to promote diversity and competition in local television markets. In fact, the off-network portion of the Prime Time Access Rule has been instrumental in creating a competitive independent television industry. It is also an essential element in the Commission's long held goal of creating new off-air television networks.

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Sincerely,

Mel Owens, Jr.

Secretary/Treasurer

MO/cm

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KNIX FM 102.5 Phoenix, AZ

KC&W AM 1580 Phoenix, AZ

Ruth Dancev Federal Communications Commission Office Of Chairman Reed Hundt 1919 M Street, NW Room 814 Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Dancey:

I understand that at its October meeting the Federal Communications Commission may initiate a proceeding looking to relax the Prime Time Access Rule. On behalf of station KUZZ, I strongly urge you to retain the "off-network" portion of the rule.

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Mel Owens, Jr.

Secretary/Treasurer

MO/cm